

Annual conferences



All project participants are invited to meet regularly. The aims of these gatherings are to:

- ▶ Present the course of the project including
 - Scientific results
 - Challenges encountered
- ▶ Exchange ideas on research topics
- ▶ Find new research partners
- ▶ Create new consortia
- ▶ Discuss research matters with representatives from politics, funding organisations etc.
- ▶ Visit research institutes

This provides upcoming researchers – often for the first time – with the opportunity to travel, to present a project, and to meet international scientists.

Additionally, the conferences allow for adapting the programme to the needs of the projects and scientists.

2010 - Opening Conference Berlin, Germany
2011 - Accra, Ghana
2012 - Bonn, Germany
2014 - Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
2015 - Würzburg, Germany
2016 - Yaoundé, Cameroon
2017 - Hamburg, Germany
2018 - Entebbe, Uganda

Contact

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DFG Links

DFG Homepage (English)

▶ www.dfg.de/en

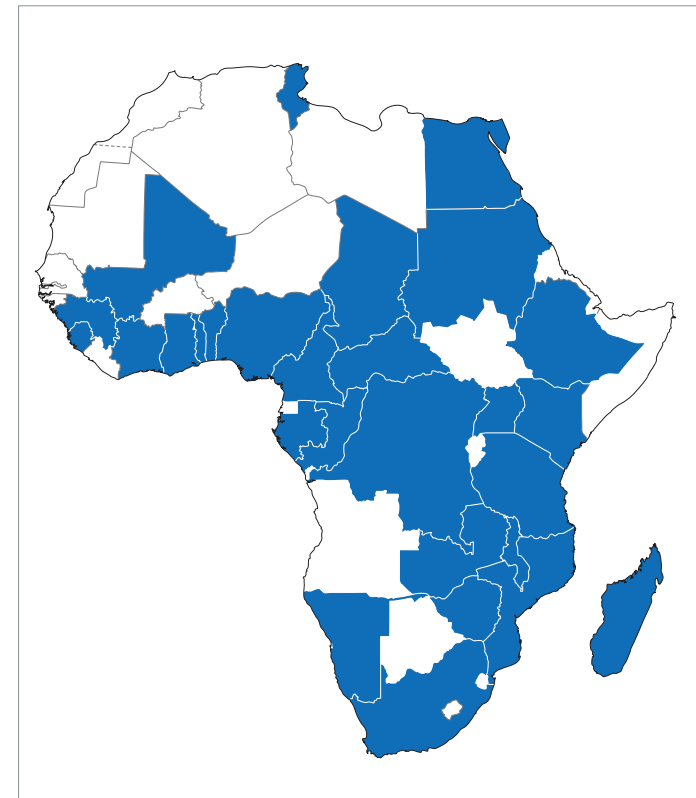
Further information:

Cooperation with Africa

▶ www.dfg.de/international/africa



Photos: Strecker/DFG; December 2022



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**German-African
Cooperation Projects
in Infectiology**

Background

In the fight against fatal infectious disease, intense research efforts are required to this day. Many fundamental questions concerning the pathology of bacteria, viruses and parasites still exist despite considerable progress in their understanding. A lack of effective medications is a direct consequence, and newly emerging resistance against established therapeutics have provided new challenges.

In this DFG funding initiative, conceived in 2007, African and German researchers are jointly addressing basic questions of diseases affecting humans and livestock with an emphasis on the so-called „neglected diseases“. These are insufficiently researched and effective treatments are often missing for economic reasons. Their severity is frequently aggravated by conditions of poverty. Tackling these medical problems in Africa by national researchers has met powerful obstacles due to the lack of efficient academic structures.

The DFG therefore requests projects to be jointly planned and executed by researchers from the African countries and Germany. In order to strengthen academic potentials, projects are required to enhance existing research capacities and train junior scientists at the research institutions in Africa.



Criteria for Projects



- ▶ Investigation of neglected infectious diseases in humans and animals including research on aspects of their social and economic impact
- ▶ Establishment or consolidation of mutually beneficial equal partnerships that allow African researchers to investigate topics of local significance
- ▶ Sustainable support for scientific careers of junior African academics in their home countries in order to contribute to building-up of research capacities in Africa
- ▶ Strengthening or establishment of research networks within Africa – inclusion of several African partner sites is encouraged for additional scientific benefit

Achievements

- ▶ To date 74 projects funded with €84.1 m Euros in 28 African countries, several involving more than one African country
- ▶ High-level publications with African partners in leading positions
- ▶ Several students originally graduated within a project have become junior faculty
- ▶ Reviewers ensured fulfillment of criteria, including fair and equal partnerships
- ▶ Originally funded from a special budget, the projects were incorporated into the regular DFG project funding
- ▶ The programme allowed for new funding opportunities for scientists in Africa and Germany

Countries with DFG funded projects (see map):

Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

